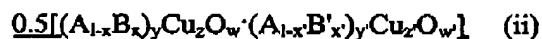


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**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please replace the paragraph from lines 4-15 on page 3 with the following amended paragraph:

The general formula (i) above embraces several sub-species of superconducting ceramic materials. One of these can be represented by the general formula



in which  $0.1 \leq x < 1$

$$0.1 \leq x' < 1$$

$$y = 2.0-4.0, \text{ preferably } 2.5-3.5,$$

$$y' = 2.0-4.0, \text{ preferably } 2.5-3.5,$$

$$z = 1.0-4.0, \text{ preferably } 1.5-3.5,$$

$$z' = 1.0-4.0, \text{ preferably } 1.5-3.5,$$

$$w = 4.0-10.0, \text{ preferably } 6.0-8.0,$$

$$w' = 4.0-10.0, \text{ preferably } 6.0-8.0,$$

A is one rare earth element and

each of B and B' is one or more alkaline earth elements.